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insight



Vol. 1, No. 3

Prairie View, Texas 77445

December 1973



President A. I. Thomas gave greetings to training conference participants.

Comments from Assistant Director Hoover Carden

During the past 12 months, 1890 Extension program aides and supervising agents have been involved in carrying out ideas and using information obtained during the first annual Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Program training conference held November 8-9, 1972.

Recommendations for subsequent conferences, bringing together all 1890 Extension program aides and supervising agents, were made by participants in the first conference. Participants believed that this type of conference would offer many opportunities for program aides and agents working with the 1890 Extension Programs to exchange ideas and discover new techniques that could possibly be applied to each county situation.

1973 Annual Training Conference

In view of the recommendations made by participants of the 1972 conference, a second annual training conference of the Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Program was held on November 7-8, 1973, in the Memorial Student Center on the campus at Prairie View. Over 115 county Extension agents, program aides, resource persons

and visitors were in attendance, representing 20 Texas counties. Dr. A. I. Thomas, President of Prairie View A&M University, welcomed the participants to the campus and challenged the group to put forth their best effort to render valuable service to the clientele in the counties they represented.

Principal address for the conference was given by Mr. Charles McDougall, Deputy Administrator-Operations, Extension Service-USDA. Mr. McDougall spoke challengingly about the direction that Extension should and must go in the future: the coordination of efforts between the 1890 and 1862 schools to meet the needs of clientele. He told of effective programs that some of the other 1890 schools are implementing in other states. In the afternoon, Prairie View Extension specialists, specialists from Texas A&M University and other resource persons conducted training workshops in specific program areas: Intensified Farm Planning, Community Recreation and Outdoor Education, and Family Resource Development.

The second day was devoted to a workshop on interaction and interpersonal relations conducted by Dr. Waymon Webster, Head of the Department of Guidance and Counseling - Prairie View A&M University. The workshop dealt with specific situations that Extension agents and program aides are confronted with in their day to day activities with each other and with clients. Simulated situations had been recorded on video tape before the conference. After each simulated situation was shown, conference participants had an opportunity to react or give their input.

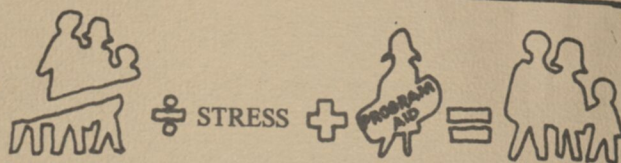


Mr. Charles McDougall, Deputy administrator operations, USDA delivered the keynote address for the training conference.

Prairie View A&M University, Texas A&M University
and

U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating

featuring the family



One of the highlights of the general session of Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Program's second annual training conference was the presentation by the Family Resource Development program aides.

MRS. DOROTHY HILL, Austin County aide, introduced the program and gave significant results for the year. Mrs. Hill told the group that over 800 families are currently



Program Aide, Dorothy Wilburn is shown conducting a Child Guidance workshop with a group of enrolled students.



Program Aide, Dorothy Hill is shown conducting a workshop in clothing construction. Mrs. Hill is giving counsel to this homemaker on pattern selection.

enrolled in the program. Since July, 1973, several contacts have been made by the aides in presenting educational material.

MRS. HELEN GRAVES of Waller County introduced each aide and supervising agent. She did this by showing a slide of each person in action and then each person stood to be recognized. Those introduced included Mrs. Dorothy Hill, program aide in Austin County, and supervising agent Mrs. Beatrice Rubenstein; Ms. Marie Trcalek and Ms. Rosetta Thomas, program aides in Burleson County and supervising agent Mrs. Marlea Thompson; Ms. Pearl Mae Love and Ms. Alberta Minor of Grimes County and their supervisor, Mrs. Lee Holt; Mrs. Esther Rubalcaba and Mrs. Katherine Hodge of Fort Bend County and their agent coordinator, Mrs. Georgiana Thomas. Waller County's Mrs. Helen Graves introduced her agent, Ms. Alma Bullard. From Washington County, Mrs. Lillie Evans and Mrs. Dorothy Wilburn stood with their agent, Mrs. Eddie P. Washington.

MRS. LILLIE EVANS discussed the child development phase of the program. Highlights were workshops conducted in every county throughout the summer. One family came to show that they had learned to improve sanitation in their home. The mother had also learned through proper storage of dry foods to protect her children from insect-infested food. This participant displayed an entire canister set she had made for 59 cents. One hundred and four families made inexpensive homemade toys for their children.

MRS. KATHERINE HODGE spotlighted the eight clothing workshops. Over 199 garments were made in the workshops, 74 garments were remodeled; and 215 people received clothing construction lessons in their homes. A total of 1,742 new construction techniques were learned.

Mrs. Hodge's presentation was a main attraction as several participants modeled garments they had made during the workshops.

Program Results

Some real attention-getting results were:

190 families are now consuming more milk

215 families report using Donated Food which they previously did not utilize

134 families exhibit new knowledge of the Basic 4 Food Groups

Later, MRS. ESTHER RUBALCABA, displaying items made by participants in several counties, showed homemakers' initiative in saving money because of lessons taught by the aides in individual homes.

Departmental Workshop

A team from Texas A&M University were on hand for the afternoon departmental workshop attended by 35 individuals, including district Extension agents, county Extension agents and program aides. The resource team was headed by Dr. Don Seaman, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Adult Education - Texas A&M University and included Ms. Melodie Maxwell, Ms. Zelda Rick, Ms. Dora DeLeon and Mr. Harry Seaman. The team was most effective in challenging the group to communicate, coordinate and cooperate. Major emphasis was placed on the following:

Listening skills: How can we become better listeners?

Nonverbal Communication

Role playing: Advantages and Disadvantages

How and When to Use

Brainstorming

Groups: Their Function and Ways to Involve Each Member

small economical farm units



INTENSIFIED FARM PLANNING PROGRAM

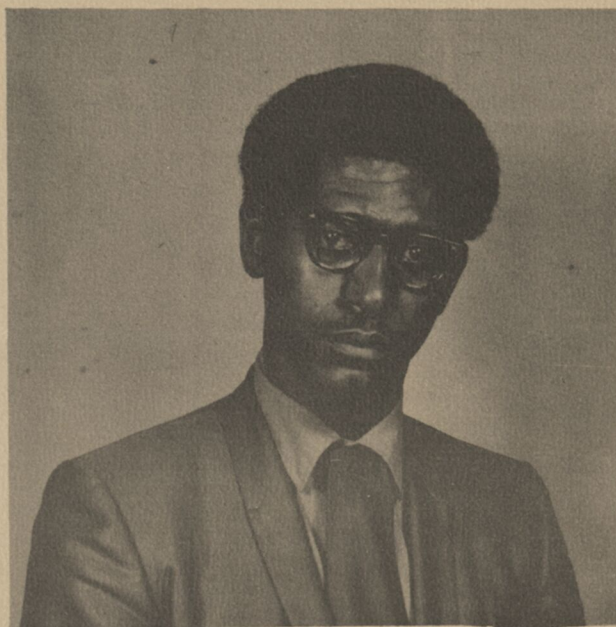
Agricultural program aides and county Extension agents conducting the Intensified Farm Planning Program gained valuable information at special workshop sessions of the second annual training conference.

Subject matter presented at these workshops centered on these areas: beef cattle production presented by Mr. L. A. Maddox, Extension beef cattle specialist; swine production conducted by Dr. William Thomas, Extension swine specialist; vegetable production, Dr. John Larsen, Extension vegetable specialist; and poultry, Mr. J. J. Woods, associate professor of poultry science of Prairie View A&M University.

During question and answer periods, participants got information of interest. A general discussion allowed all participants to make contributions to the training session. In reports of accomplishments, aides presented ideas on possible solutions to commonly shared problems.

Prior to the sessions, surveys determined their interests, problems and questions they would like answered. The content of this workshop was based on information gathered in these surveys.

Interest in additional training is evident. It will be planned.



NEW STAFF MEMBER ADDED

Mr. Harold Crawford joined the Prairie View Extension staff effective September 1, 1973, in the capacity of Program Analysis and Evaluation Specialist. Mr. Crawford's specific duties will be to evaluate the Community Recreation and Outdoor Education and the Family Resource Development programs. A native of Chattanooga, Tennessee, he received his B.S. degree in mathematics from Fisk University and the M.A. degree in secondary supervision from the University of Texas at El Paso. Presently, he is doing his dissertation for the doctoral degree in educational administration at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

IFPP

The agricultural program aide is in continuous need for information and techniques of how to reach more people more effectively. In addition to the formal type of training as reported here, there is a continuing effort to provide individual help on a one to one basis by the agricultural program specialist. The assistance given is related to specific problems that are confronting the aide and many times require the involvement of other resource agencies to find the best group of activities to recommend to the aide.

One strong point of this phase of our program is that it allows for the structuring of individual solution activities for a specific problem situation. This has assured a more positive outlook on problems that are identified.



community recreation



COMMUNITY RECREATION AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Twenty-five students employed as recreation aides participated in a departmental workshop conducted by the Community Recreation and Outdoor Education phase of the Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Program. The workshop, entitled "Recreation in the Education Process," was held during the second annual training conference on November 7.

Resource persons from the University of Houston and Prairie View A&M University provided material and information concerning leisure and recreation. Topics of interest included: "The Value of Recreation in the Education Process" by Dr. Pat Buckner, (Chairman of the Men's Division—Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation)—University of Houston; "Use of Leisure" by Dr. Mattie Landow, (Head of Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation)—Prairie View A&M University; "Scope of Recreation" by Dr. Samuel Lindsay, (Instructor—Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation)—Prairie View A&M University; and "Impact of Leisure" by Mr. Herbert Bridgewater, (Instructor—Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation)—Prairie View A&M University.

Some major points discussed were:

- Because leisure provides an opportunity for a fuller life, it can become a source of fulfillment and self-identity.
- If we educate for the proper use of leisure time, the would-be autonomous individual can reclaim his individual character through his creative powers.
- The challenge of leisure is to furnish social outlets for the development of human creative instincts.



Mr. Larry Clemmons, Recreation Program Aide of Waller County did the presentation for the Community Recreation phase of the annual training conference.

Pictured below, Aides are listening to panel discussion and viewing displays of various projects.

